

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A carabiner comprising:

An oblong ring having a hinged gate adapted to have a closed position and an open position;

control means substantially within said gate; said control means having a first position and a second position;

said control means first position adapted to keep said gate closed; and

said control means second position adapted to enable said gate to move from said closed position to said open position.

2. The carabiner recited in claim 1 including:

forcing means; said control means at said second position enables said forcing means to move in response to movement of said gate from said closed position to said open position.

3. The carabiner recited in claim 2 wherein;

said control means second position transmits force from said forcing means for biasing said gate toward said closed position.

4. The carabiner recited in claim 2 wherein:

said control means at said second position transmits force to said forcing means thereby enabling said gate to move from said closed position to said open position.

5. The carabiner recited in claim 1 including:

operating means that selectively moves said control means from said first position to said second position.

6. The carabiner recited in claim 5 wherein:

 said operating means selectively moves said control means from said second position to said first position

7. The carabiner recited in claim 1 wherein:

 said control means first position adapted to block opening movement of said gate.

8. The control means recited in claim 2 wherein:

 said first position is stable and said second position is stable, said stability provided by said forcing means.

9. The carabiner recited in claim 1 wherein:

 A portion of said gate is hollow, said control means and said forcing means are substantially contained within said hollow portion of said gate.

10. A climbing aid comprising:

 a C-shaped body having a first leg end and a second leg end;

 an arm adapted to span the opening between said body first and second leg ends; said arm having a first end and a second end;

 said arm first end hinged to said body first leg end;

 forcing means within said arm;

 control means substantially contained within said arm; said control means can be selectively moved from a first position to a second position;

 said control means first position adapted to prevent separation of said arm from said body when said arm second end is adjacent said body second leg; and

 said control means second position adapted to provide the transmission of force from said forcing means to said body first leg end for urging said arm second end toward said body second leg.

11. The climbing aid recited in claim 10 wherein:

 said control means first position blocks movement of said forcing means; said control means second position allows movement of said forcing means.

12. A substantially oblong ring having a hinged gate adapted to provide a path to the inside of said ring; said gate comprising:

 forcing means adapted to close said gate, said forcing means contained within said gate;

 control means for directing the force provided by said forcing means, said control means substantially contained within said gate;

 said control means has a first position and a second position; said control means can be selectively moved by finger pressure;

 said first position prevents opening movement of said gate; and

 said second position allows opening movement of said gate.